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Georgia Department of Human Resources • Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Addictive Diseases
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TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

Juvenile Sexual Offender Counselor Certification Program *Introductory Seminar*

To: Providers of Child and Adolescent Mental Health & Addictive Diseases Services
DHR Division of MHDDAD Regional Coordinators
DHR Division of MHDDAD Hospital Administration
Department of Juvenile Justice
Department of Education

From: Dawne Morgan, Director, Child and Adolescent Systems of Care, Division of MHDDAD

CC: Division Management Team

Date: September 12, 2006

The purpose of this announcement is to provide information about the JSOCCP Introductory Seminar that will be held on October 11, 2006.

Title: **Juvenile Sexual Offender Counselor Certification Program (JSOCCP)
Introductory Seminar**

Background: The assessment and treatment of sexually offending youth has provided a challenge, especially to staff affiliated with mental health, juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Fortunately, research and experience have begun to inform practice in the past few years. The University of Louisville has developed a credentialed course in Juvenile Sexual Offender Treatment under the direction of Dr. Dana Christensen. This course offers rigorous graduate level training to clinicians who work with juvenile sexual offenders. This is the only university based training certification program. The Division is pleased to be able to offer this unique educational opportunity to a select number of staff who can commit to the complete pre-training reading, an eight-day intensive training experience, and subsequent practicum. The first group of individuals selected for this training began in August 2006 and the October 2006 session will be the second opportunity for provider organizations and hospitals to attend this important training. Other upcoming eight day training seminars will be made available January 11–18, 2007 and April 12–19, 2007.

Description: This training announcement pertains to the one-day Introductory Seminar about Juvenile Sexual Offender Counselor Certification. The Introductory Seminar will provide managers and administrators of provider organizations, as well as those who supervise clinicians who provide services to adolescents, a comprehensive overview of the therapeutic model for JSOCCP and the credentialing process itself.

The seminar will be presented by Dr. Dana Christensen. It is designed for managers and open to others as well. The seminar will take place on October 11, 2006 and again in the spring of 2007.

Presenter: **Dana Christensen, Ph.D.** is the Director of the *Center for Family Resource Development* at the University of Louisville and is a Professor in the Kent School of Social Work. He holds a doctorate in Marriage and Family Therapy and has been a Clinical Member and Approved Supervisor of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy since 1980.

Dr. Christensen's current area of study is focused on preventing child sexual abuse through enhanced community and neighborhood based partnerships, and the early identification and treatment of juveniles who have committed a sexual offense. In the early 1990's, as the field began to realize the link between juvenile sexual behavior problems and adult sexual offending, Dr. Christensen initiated the first university-based training program for counselors who work with juvenile sexual offenders. Validated research on treatment outcome has confirmed that juveniles who receive adequate treatment have a very low rate of recidivism (re-offending), and for each juvenile who is prevented from further sexually abusive behavior, countless victims of child sexual abuse are prevented.

Dr. Christensen has worked closely with many state agencies, assisting them in their efforts to improve their case assessment, case planning, and case management practices. Accomplishments in this area included developing, training, and implementing a state-wide treatment protocol for every treatment facility in Kentucky's Department for Juvenile Justice. He has also worked closely with other states on similar endeavors, as well as mental health and private child care treatment providers in developing practices that facilitate working partnerships with child protection, school services, and juvenile justice agencies.

Audience: The primary audience for this training is staff of **DHR Division of MHDDAD** contracted provider organizations and DMHDDAD hospitals. This includes:

- Managers and supervisors of therapeutic/counseling services for adolescent consumers who are sexual offenders or who have been victimized by juvenile sexual offenders
- Providers of Child and Adolescent Mental Health / Addictive Diseases Services who are currently working with juvenile sexual offenders or who will be developing treatment services for this group of youth
- Clinicians, therapists and counselors interested in learning more about this innovative approach to treating juvenile sexual offenders

In addition, a limited number of staff from related areas may participate:

- DHR Division of Family & Children Services
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Department of Education
- Georgia Department of Corrections

Purpose: To provide a working understanding of the treatment issues involved when working with juveniles who have a sexual behavior problem or who have committed a sexual offense.

Learning Objectives:

Content to be covered includes:

- an overview of the field and its history
- the importance of training and credentialing in the new field
- dynamics and characteristics of the population

- minimum outcome skills for preventing relapse
- stages of treatment
- understanding patterns of abusive behavior
- role of trauma in offending patterns
- relapse prevention planning
- family involvement in treatment
- the role of Family Support Teams
- an overview of the JSOCCP training and practicum requirements
- the role of supervision and management
- treatment resources

Dates: The Introductory Seminar will take place on **Wednesday October 11, 2006** from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Location: The Introductory Seminar will be held at the new Central Georgia Conference Center in Forsyth, Ga. For directions go to: <http://www.cg-cc.com/>

CEUs: Application has been made to the University of Georgia, School of Social Work for continuing education credits for Social Workers, Counselors, and Marriage & Family Therapists. Psychologists may inquire with Dr. Prost in the Division's Training Section regarding Psychology CEUs. Full attendance of the seminar event will be required in order to obtain CEUs.

Cost: There is no fee to attend this training event.

Please Note: While there is **no fee** for this training event, participants are responsible for their own meals, snacks and lodging arrangements. **Please note that no refreshments will be served. You may want to bring a lightweight jacket or sweater as trainers have no control over room temperature.**

Contact: If you have questions, contact Forrest Burson, Training Coordinator II, at (404) 657-1143 or via email: RegistrationMHDDAD@dhr.state.ga.us

Registration: ***The Division of MHDDAD reserves the right to select participants in order to ensure involvement of organizations statewide.*** Please register early as we expect the program will reach capacity quickly.

Please Register Online at:

<http://www.cviog.uga.edu/training/dhr/>

OR YOU MAY FAX YOUR REGISTRATION USING THE REGISTRATION FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE.

Registration Deadline: Monday Oct. 2, 2006.

**Juvenile Sexual Offender Counseling Certification Program
Introductory Seminar
Registration deadline: Monday, October 2, 2006**

CONTACT INFORMATION

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Last Name	First Name	Middle
Mailing Address (Please provide Street Address too if you use a P.O. Box for mail.)		
EMAIL Address (PLEASE PRINT)		
City	State	Zip
Work Phone	Fax	Alternate Phone
Full Name of Your Organization		
Job Title		

PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

Program Area You Work In <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health <input type="checkbox"/> Developmental Disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Addictive Diseases <input type="checkbox"/> MH & Addictive Diseases <input type="checkbox"/> All Program Areas	DHDDAD Region Your Organization Serves <input type="checkbox"/> Region 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Region 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Region 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Region 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Region 5	
Your Role <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Service <input type="checkbox"/> Supervisor/Management <input type="checkbox"/> Administration <input type="checkbox"/> DHR State or Regional office <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Advocate <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Area of Licensure <input type="checkbox"/> Social Work <input type="checkbox"/> Registered Nurse <input type="checkbox"/> Psychologist <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensed Prof Counselor <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Addition Counselor <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed Marriage/Family Therapist

You may Fax the Registration Form to Michael Moryc at CVIOG at 404/463-6808.

Or Register Online at:
<http://www.cviog.uga.edu/training/dhr/>